



**SUNNYVALE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION  
SPECIAL SESSION  
MEETING MINUTES – August 15, 2011**

The Sustainability Commission met in special session in the West Conference Room, 456 W. Olive Ave., at 7:00 p.m. with Sustainability Commission Chair, Sue Harrison presiding.

Commission Chair Sue Harrison, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Gerry Glaser  
Amit Srivastava  
Joe Green-Heffern  
Sue Harrison  
Dan Hafeman  
Barbara Fukumoto

**Members Absent:** Regina Wheeler (Excused)

**Staff Present:** Dustin Clark, Environmental Sustainability Coordinator

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1.A) ACTION: Approval of draft minutes of Sustainability Commission meeting of July 18, 2011.

**Commissioner Srivastava moved to approve the draft minutes and Commissioner Glaser seconded the motion.**

**VOTE 6 – 0 (Commissioner Wheeler absent)**

**PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Hafeman announced that the Sunnyvale West Neighborhood Association will be hosting a brainstorming session on traffic issues for interested Sunnyvale residents. The brainstorming session will be held Thursday, August 18 at 7:30 in the Washington Park building. Commissioner Hafeman will be moderating.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS**

1) ACTION: Study Issue Sponsorship

**Commissioner Glaser made a motion and Commissioner Green-Heffern seconded to “Recommend a study issue to explore the legal, financial, policy and regulatory issues in establishing a Sustainability Demonstration Fund for environmental projects in the public and private sector.”**

The Public Hearing was opened. No members of the public came forward. The Public Hearing was closed.

**VOTE 6-0 (Commissioner Wheeler absent)**

**Commissioner Green-Heffern made a motion and Commissioner Glaser seconded to “Recommend studying a method for consolidated tracking of all forms of energy and water usage and recovery across City Operations utilizing existing City resources to the extent practicable”.**

The Public Hearing was opened. An unidentified member of the public addressed the Commission and expressed concern over the potential costs involved in the study. There were no other speakers. The Public Hearing was closed.

**VOTE 6-0 (Commissioner Wheeler absent)**

**Commissioner Srivastava made a motion and Commissioner Hafeman seconded to “Recommend a study to provide meaningful information with comparable metrics for water in water bills or online that can help promote conservation of water.”**

The Public Hearing was opened. The same unidentified member of the public addressed the Commission and expressed support for the idea and would find value in meaningful information if it allowed for clear comparisons of water use during the same time during the previous year. The Public Hearing was closed.

**VOTE 5-1 (Commissioner Glaser opposed and Commissioner Wheeler absent)**

**Commissioner Harrison made a motion and Commissioner Srivastava seconded to “Recommend a study to identify existing policies and plans to see whether they are impacted by sea level rise on land uses as reflected in the Bay Conservation and Development Commission report that anticipates sea level rise.”**

The Public Hearing was opened. The same unidentified member of the public addressed the Commission and expressed concern about the cost associated with the study and questioned the assumptions made regarding the extent of sea level rise. The Public Hearing was closed.

**VOTE 5-1 (Commissioner Hafeman opposed and Commissioner Wheeler absent)**

**Commissioner Fukumoto made a motion and Commissioner Glaser seconded to “Recommend a study issue to set up a process to perform a Community Greenhouse Gas Inventory annually.”**

The Public Hearing was opened. The same unidentified member of the public addressed the Commission and expressed concern over the potential costs involved in the study. The Public Hearing was closed.

**VOTE 6-0 (Commissioner Wheeler absent)**

**Commissioner Srivastava made a motion and Commissioner Fukumoto seconded to “Recommend a study to examine whether there is a benefit to the City as a sponsor of a community solar program that can be offered to community members.”**

The Public Hearing was opened. The same unidentified member of the public addressed the Commission and expressed concern over the potential costs involved in the study. The Public Hearing was closed.

**VOTE 6-0 (Commissioner Wheeler absent)**

- 2) ACTION: Recommendation to Council Regarding Sustainability Commission Meeting Schedule

**Commissioner Green-Heffern made a motion and Commissioner Hafeman seconded to “Recommend Council increase the meeting schedule frequency of the Sustainability Commission to monthly”.**

The Public Hearing was opened. No members of the public came forward. The Public Hearing was closed.

**VOTE 6-0 (Commissioner Wheeler absent)**

**NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS**

**Board and Commission Member Oral Comments**

Commissioner Green-Heffern suggested a future regular agenda action item for Commission recommendations to Council to facilitate communication with Council.

Commissioner Green-Heffern also raised his desire to recommend to Council that Community Sustainability metrics be included in the City’s Community Condition Indicators.

Commissioner Glaser suggested as a future agenda item to discuss advising Council to examine changing the City’s water bill so that the information is more useful to residents.

Commissioner Hafeman suggested on a future agenda a discussion about speed limits along El Camino Real in Sunnyvale.

**Staff Oral Comments**

Environmental Sustainability Coordinator Clark provided the Commission an update regarding questions that were raised at the July 18 Sustainability Commission meeting.

- The Plastic Bag Ban study issue is expected to be brought to the Sustainability Commission November 21 meeting.

- The Polystyrene Container Ban study issue has been deferred until next year. Due to staff resources the decision was made delay the study and defer funding until next year when more staff resources are available.
- The Reliable Electrical Power Options study issue is currently stalled due to funding issues. The issue is expected to be taken back to Council for guidance.
- The Requiring Electrical Car Chargers in New Residential Developments study issue is expected to go to Council in November. Consideration for single family, townhouse, apartment and condominium developments will be included in the study. The issue is not expected to come before the Sustainability Commission due to time constraints.
- A discussion on advocacy issues is expected to be on the Sustainability Commission's September agenda. Advocacy issues are generally short-term in nature, speak to pending legislation and current issues, support the General Plan and provide guidance to Council and staff on intergovernmental matters directly related to delivery of service or otherwise contributing to the City's operational success.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Harrison adjourned the meeting at 10:00 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Dustin Clark, Environmental Sustainability Coordinator